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New Orleans, La.
September 1944

METHOD OF COMPUTING WEIGHT OF ROUGH RICE AFTER DRYING

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The wider use of combines and artificial driers in the harvesting of rough rice has caused operators of driers to become interested in a method for computing the weight of rough rice after drying when the weight of the rice before drying, the moisture content of the rice before drying, and the moisture content of the rice after drying are known.

In October, 1916, Bulletin No. 374 of the United States Department of Agriculture was issued. The author is Mr. E. G. Boerner. The title of the bulletin is "The Intrinsic Values of Grain, Cottonseed, Flour, and Similar Products, Based on the Dry-Matter Content." In this bulletin a formula is shown which can be used to compute the moisture content after drying, the moisture content before drying, the weight of the rice before drying, or the weight of the rice after drying, if three of these factors are known.

The formula is as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{Percentage of} &) & (& \text{Percentage of} &) & & \\ \text{dry matter} &) & : & (& \text{dry matter} &) & :: (\text{Original}) : (\text{Final} \\ \text{after drying} &) & & (& \text{before drying} &) & (\text{weight}) (\text{Weight} \end{array}$$

The percentage of dry matter is always the difference between 100 and the moisture content. For instance, if rice contains 22% of moisture, the dry matter content is 78%. In applying the formula the moisture content must be ascertained and deducted from 100 to learn the dry matter content.

The following is an example of the application of the above formula: When a lot of rough rice of 1,000 barrels containing 22% moisture before drying, is dried to a moisture content of 14%, the question is the weight of the rice after drying. The percentage of dry matter before drying in this case is 78, and this multiplied by the original weight is 78,000. The percentage of dry matter after drying is 86, and when 78,000 is divided by 86, the answer is 906.97, which is the number of barrels of rough rice after drying. This does not take into consideration any reduction in weight caused by cleaning or by loss of rice in handling. Almost invariably there is also some loss in weight because of the dust and other light material that is blown out in the drying and handling operations.

If the final weight and moisture content before drying and after drying are known, and the desire is to know the weight before drying, the formula is reversed by multiplying the final weight by the percentage of dry matter after drying, and dividing by the percentage of dry matter before drying.

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SEP 27 1944

